

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 OTTAWA 02345 282205Z

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ACTION SCA-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 PPT-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 SCS-03 L-03

DRC-01 /069 W

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R 282127Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1830

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, CA

SUBJECT: CANADIAN ILLEGAL IMMIGRANT REGISTRATION DRIVE

1. TAKING TO THE AIRWAVES AND TO THE PRESS, CANADIAN IMMIGRATION OFFICIALS FROM MINISTER ROBERT ANDRAS ON DOWN, HAVE BEEN EXPRESSING CONCERN OVER THE DISAPPOINTING TURNOUT OF ALIENS ILLEGALLY IN CANADA TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF AN OFFER PROVIDED BY PARLIAMENT TO REGULARIZE THEIR STATUS IN CANADA BY MIDNIGHT, OCTOBER 15. CANADIAN IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES WERE ADMINISTRATIVELY GEARED UP TO HANDLE AS MANY AS 100,000 ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS WHO ENTERED CANADA BEFORE NOVEMBER 30, 1972, AND WHO COME FORWARD NOW TO APPLY FOR CANADIAN LANDED IMMIGRANT STATUS. SUCH PERSONS HAVE BEEN PROMISED ADJUDICATION ON THE BASIS OF THE MOST RELAXED STANDARDS. ANY SUCH PERSON COMING FORWARD TO REGISTER BEFORE THE MIDNIGHT OCTOBER 15 DEADLINE WOULD HAVE THE MOST EXCELLENT CHANCE OF ACQUIRING COVETED LANDED IMMIGRANT STATUS UNLESS HE FELL INTO THE CATEGORY OF THE VERY SMALL NUMBER OF PROHIBITED PERSONS, SUCH AS CONVICTED FELONS, NARCOTICS ADDICTS, ALCOHOLICS, OR INSANE. EVEN THEN, THE PERSON COMING FORWARD BEFORE OCTOBER 15 WOULD HAVE ACCESS TO THE IMMIGRATION APPEAL BOARD IN CASE OF REJECTION. AFTER OCTOBER 15, THE RULE

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PAGE 02 OTTAWA 02345 282205Z

WITH RESPECT TO HAVING TO LEAVE CANADA IN ORDER TO

APPLY FOR LANDED IMMIGRANT STATUS WOULD BE STRICTLY  
APPLIED AND ANY ILLEGAL IMMIGRANT DISCOVERED WOULD BE  
DEPORTED WITHOUT RECOURSE TO APPEAL.

2. THE MANPOWER AND IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT HAS SPENT  
OVER ONE MILLION DOLLARS ON A CONCENTRATED ADVERTISING  
CAMPAIGN TO GET ITS MESSAGE TO FOREIGNERS LIVING  
ILLEGALLY IN CANADA. NEVERTHELESS, OF THE APPROXIMATELY  
50,000 ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS AUTHORITIES HAD HOPED TO HAVE  
TURNED UP SO FAR, LESS THAN HALF THAT NUMBER HAVE COME  
FORWARD TO REGISTER. CANADIAN AUTHORITIES ARE BLAMING  
VARIOUS IMMIGRANT COUNSELING GROUPS FOR GIVING GUARD  
HOUSE LAWYER ADVICE TO PERSONS WHO MIGHT OTHERWISE TAKE  
ADVANTAGE OF THE "ALL-WILL-BE-FORGIVEN" PROGRAM.

3. COMMENT: WHILE GROUPS SUCH AS THE TORONTO ANTI-DRAFT  
PROGRAM HAVE EXPLAINED TO THE PRESS THAT THEIR CLIENTS  
SIMPLY "DON'T TRUST THE GOVERNMENT," THE EMBASSY HAS NOT  
BECOME AWARE OF ANY CONSISTENT PRO OR CON LINE TAKEN BY  
THE U.S. DESERTER OR DRAFT DODGER COUNSELING GROUPS.  
WHATEVER THE COUNSEL IN INDIVIDUAL CASES, IT SEEMS CLEAR  
THAT WITH ALL OF THE PUBLIC WARNINGS ISSUED BY CANADIAN  
IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES, THERE WILL BE LITTLE HESITATION  
AFTER OCTOBER 15 TO DEPORT ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS AS THEY  
ARE DISCOVERED WITH LITTLE REGARD TO THE PROBABILITY OF  
THEIR BEING ARRESTED AND PROSECUTED IN THE UNITED  
STATES, A CONSIDERATION WHICH HAS UP TO NOW INHIBITED  
CANADIAN DEPORTATION OF U.S. DESERTERS AND DRAFT EVADERS,  
WHICH THE EMBASSY NOW TENTATIVELY ESTIMATES AT PERHAPS 6,500  
(2,000 DESERTERS, 4,500 DRAFT EVADERS) THROUGHOUT  
CANADA.  
SCHMIDT

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